

Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2005
Amendment Dated: August 2, 2005

Appl. No.: 10/727,252
Attorney Docket No.: H0005762/HON-003

Listing of Claims

1 Claim 1 (Previously Amended): A method of enabling an operator to remotely
2 manage a plurality of field devices designed to implement a process in a plant, said plant
3 further containing a field device management station (FDMS) coupled to said plurality of
4 field devices by a control network, said method comprising:

5 providing a wireless connection from a first client, wherein said wireless connection
6 provides communication between said first client and said FDMS;

7 enabling said operator to issue a first command from said first client to a first field
8 device contained in said plurality of field devices;

9 transferring said first command from said first client to said FDMS on said wireless
10 connection;

11 forwarding said first command from said FDMS to said first field device on said
12 control network,

13 whereby said operator manages said plurality of field devices using said first client,
14 providing a wire-based connection between a second client and said FDMS;

15 transferring another command from said second client to said FDMS on said
16 wire-based medium, said another command being directed to a second device contained in
17 said plurality of field devices; and

18 forwarding said another command from said FDMS to said second field device,

19 whereby commands from said first client and said second client are channeled
20 through said FDMS.

1 Claim 2 (Previously Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2 connecting said first client to a second field device contained in said plurality of field
3 devices;

4 transferring a second command from said FDMS to said first client using said
5 wireless connection, wherein said second command is directed to said second field device;
6 and

Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2005
Amendment Dated: August 2, 2005

Appl. No.: 10/727,252
Attorney Docket No.: H0005762/HON-003

7 sending said second command from said first client to said second field device,
8 whereby said second command is forwarded from said FDMS to said second field device
9 without using said control network.

1 Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 2, further comprising enabling said operator
2 to issue said second command from said first client, wherein said FDMS receives said
3 second command and performs said transferring said second command.

1 Claim 4 (Presently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said wireless
2 connection is provided to cover the entire communication path between said FDMS and said
3 first client.

1 Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said wireless connection is
2 provided between said first client and a network device, wherein said network device is
3 connected to a network connecting said network device to said FDMS by a wire-based
4 medium.

1 Claim 6 (Canceled)

1 Claim 7 (Presently Amended): The method of claim 1, maintaining a central log of
2 said first command and said another command in said FDMS, wherein said central log is
3 updated ~~within a short time~~ after said operator issues said first command and said another
4 command.

1 Claim 8 (Presently Amended): A field device management station (FDMS) enabling
2 management of a plurality of field devices, said plurality of field devices being coupled to
3 said FDMS by a control network, said FDMS comprising:
4 a wireless interface providing connectivity to a first client by a wireless medium; and
5 a data manager block receiving a first command from said first client on said wireless
6 medium, said first command being directed to a first field device contained in said plurality

Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2005
Amendment Dated: August 2, 2005

Appl. No.: 10/727,252
Attorney Docket No.: H0005762/HON-003

7 of field devices, said data manager forwarding said first command ~~from~~ on said control
8 network,

9 wherein said first command is issued by an operator such that said operator manages
10 said plurality of field devices using said first client,

11 a wire-line interface providing connectivity to a second client by a wire-line based
12 medium,

13 said data manager block receiving a second command from said second client by said
14 wire-line based medium, said second command being directed to a second field device
15 contained in said plurality of devices, said data manager block forwarding said second
16 command to said second field device on said control network.

1 Claim 9 (Original): The FDMS of claim 8, wherein said data manager block is
2 operable to receive a second command from said first client on said wireless medium, said
3 second command being directed to a second field device contained in said plurality of field
4 devices, said second field device being connected to said first client, said data manager block
5 forwarding said second command on said wireless medium to said first client.

1 Claim 10 (Canceled)

1 Claim 11 (Previously Amended): The FDMS of claim 9, further comprising:
2 a wireless client handler provided between said wireless interface and said data
3 manager, said wireless client handler receiving said first command on said wireless medium,
4 said wireless client handler further receiving a first response from said data manager block
5 and forwarding said first response on said wireless medium; and
6 a wire-line client handler provided between said wire-line interface and said data
7 manager, said wire-based client handler receiving said second command on said wire-based
8 medium, said wire-based client handler further receiving a second response from said data
9 manager block and forwarding said second response on said wire-based medium.

Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2005
Amendment Dated: August 2, 2005

Appl. No.: 10/727,252
Attorney Docket No.: H0005762/HON-003

1 12 (Original): The FDMS of claim 11, wherein said data manager receives a request
2 to establish a connection from said first client and instantiates said wireless client handler
3 in response to receiving said request.

1 Claim 13 (Previously Amended): The FDMS of claim 9, wherein said data manager
2 maintains a central log containing information on said first command and said second
3 command.

1 Claim 14 (Presently Amended): A computer readable medium carrying one or more
2 sequences of instructions for causing a field device management station (FDMS) to enable
3 management of a plurality of field devices, said plurality of field devices being coupled to
4 said FDMS by a control network, wherein execution of said one or more sequences of
5 instructions by one or more processors contained in said FDMS causes said one or more
6 processors to perform the actions of:

7 receiving a first command from said first client on a wireless medium, said first
8 command being directed to a first field device contained in said plurality of field devices;
9 and

10 forwarding said first command on said control network to said first field device,
11 wherein said first command is issued by an operator from said first client such that
12 said operator manages said plurality of field devices using said first client,

13 receiving a third command from a third client on a wire-line based medium, said
14 third command being directed to a third field device contained in said plurality of devices;
15 and

16 forwarding said third command to said third field device on said control network.

1 Claim 15 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 14, further comprising:
2 receiving a second command from said first client on said wireless medium, said
3 second command being directed to a second field device contained in said plurality of field
4 devices, said second field device being connected to said first client, and
5 forwarding said second command on said wireless medium to said first client.

Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2005
Amendment Dated: August 2, 2005

Appl. No.: 10/727,252
Attorney Docket No.: H0005762/HON-003

1 Claim 16 (Canceled)

1 Claim 17 (Previously Amended): The computer readable medium of claim 15, further
2 comprising maintaining a central log containing information on said first command and said
3 second command.

1 Claim 18 (Previously Amended): A computer readable medium carrying one or more
2 sequences of instructions for causing a client to enable remote management of a plurality of
3 field devices, said plurality of field devices being coupled to a field device management
4 station (FDMS) by a control network, wherein execution of said one or more sequences of
5 instructions by one or more processors contained in said client causes said one or more
6 processors to perform the actions of:
7 sending a first command to said FDMS on a wireless medium, said first command
8 being directed to a first field device contained in said plurality of field devices; and
9 receiving a first response on said wireless medium from said FDMS;
10 wherein said first command is issued by an operator such that said operator manages
11 said plurality of field devices using said first client,
12 wherein said client is connected to a second field device by a path,
13 sending a second command to said FDMS on said wireless medium, said second
14 command being directed to a second field device contained in said plurality of field devices;
15 receiving said second command from said FDMS on said wireless medium; and
16 forwarding said second command to said second field device on said path after said
17 receiving from said FDMS.

1 Claim 19 (Canceled)